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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING

Note by the Secretariat

1. The International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, held at Vienna from 17 to 26 June 1987, adopted a Declaration and Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control (CMO) (A/CONF.133/12). The General Assembly adopted resolutions 42/112 of 7 December 1987, 43/122 of 8 December 1988 and 44/142 of 15 December 1989 relating to the implementation of the recommendations of the International Conference. The Declaration of the International Conference has been recognized as an expression of the political will of nations to combat the drug menace, and the CMO as a compendium of recommendations for implementation.

2. At its seventeenth special session, devoted to the question of international co-operation against illicit production, supply, demand, trafficking and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, the General Assembly adopted resolution S-17/2 of 28 February 1990 containing a Political Declaration and a Global Programme of Action. The Assembly reaffirmed the principles set forth in the 1987 Declaration and undertook to apply as appropriate the recommendations of the CMO.

3. The Global Programme of Action is based on the CMO, with the key difference that the Global Programme has moved beyond recommendations to the identification of mandates and the outlining of measures to be taken by Governments as well as the United Nations system.

4. In view of the fact that much of the action being undertaken in the field of international drug control derives from the 1987 International Conference and the Global Programme of Action, it should be recalled that a number of related reports have already been submitted as separate documents for the consideration of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs outlining action taken. Such reports include the following:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on international co-operation on drug abuse control (A/45/542). Since 1980, an annual report on international co-operation in drug abuse control has been prepared pursuant to a

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request by the General Assembly. This report has been prepared on the basis of information provided by 19 United Nations entities;

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the review of drug abuse and measures to reduce illicit demand (E/CN.7/1991/19). The Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1989/14 of 22 May 1989, requested the Secretary-General to issue a questionnaire to all Governments and regional intergovernmental organizations on action taken at national and regional levels to implement the seven targets set out in chapter I of the CMO. This report summarizes the main conclusions to be drawn from the 52 replies;

(c) Report on the International Drug Abuse Assessment System (E/CN.7/1991/23). Target one of the CMO, assessment of the extent of drug misuse and abuse, and target two, organization of comprehensive systems for the collection and evaluation of data, call upon the United Nations to assist States in developing a reliable statistical system for compiling, analysing and reporting data on drug abuse world-wide. Following those targets, and in accordance with resolution 3 (S-X) of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and with the Global Programme of Action, paragraph 13, an expert group on the establishment of an International Drug Abuse Assessment System (IDAAS) was held in Vienna from 29-31 October 1990. This is the report of that expert group meeting;

(d) Report on the Development of a Drug Abuse Control Information Strategy (E/CN.7/1990/CRP.16). In accordance with target one of the CMO, assessment of the extent of drug misuse and abuse, Assembly resolution 43/122, section II, and Council resolution 1988/9 of 25 May 1988, the Vienna-based drug control units worked to integrate inputs from national, regional and subregional services in a computerized data base. This report contains the initial development of a methodology and work plan.

5. It should be noted that although additional steps have been taken to further develop the methodology and work plan, in view of the restructuring of the drug control units into a single unified structure, final decisions have been deferred to allow senior management to fully integrate plans for the Information Strategy into the new structure. Consideration of the Information Strategy was deferred by the Commission at its eleventh special session. The Commission may now wish to take note of the ongoing programme to develop that Strategy within the context of the new drug programme.

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